in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th March, 1987 and state:

(a) the progress made so far to formulate a uniform civil code for the country;

(b) whether any efforts are being made to arrive at a national consensus on this crucial matter; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The proposal of the Uniform Civil Code is still under consideration of the Government and as soon as the draft of the code is finalised the question of arriving at a national consensus in the matter will be taken up.

Public Sector Undertaking

*10. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several public sector undertakings in the country are reported to have shown inflated figures of profits in their accounts than the actual profit earned by them; and

(b) what is the reaction of Government thereto and what further measures are proposed to be taken to review the working of the Public Sector Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The accounts of enterprises are duly audited before they are laid on the Table of the House. The question of showing inflated profit figures, therefore, does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

Letters of intent to MRTP companies for setting up units in no industry districts

*11. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of letters of intent issued to MRTP companies for setting up units in 'no-industry districts' in the country during 1986 as against the letters of intent issued to such companies during 1984 and 1985;

(b) what percentage of the letters of intent issued have been converted into industrial licences during these years, year-wise;

(c) what are the major reasons for the poor response, if any, by MRTP companies in setting up units in 'no-industry districts' and for non issuance of industrial licences; and

(d) whether in view of the lack of enthusiasm Government propose to give any further incentives to achieve the objectives, if so, what is the decision, if any, taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The table below gives the number of letters of intent issued during the years 1984, 1985 and 1986 to undertakings registered under the MRTP Act for setting up industries in 'no-industry districts' as also the number of such of the letters of

intent which have since been converted into industrial licences:—

Year	No. of letters of intent issued to MRTP companies for 'no-industry districts'	Letters of intent out of those indicated in col. (2), which have been converted into industrial licences as on 28-2-87	
1984	7	2	28 6
1985	11	2	18 2
1986	5	..	..

(c) and (d) One of the important objectives of Government's industrial policy is to correct regional imbalances and to encourage of dispersal of industries to backward areas. With this and in view, a number of incentives and concessions, such as Central investment subsidy, concessional finance, transport subsidy, etc. are being provided for establishing industries in backward areas. Realising that one of the impediments encountered in the industrialisation of backward regions, more particularly the 'no-industry districts', in the absence of infrastructural facilities, a scheme has been introduced for assisting the state Governments to take up infrastructural development in one or two identified growth centres in each 'no-industry districts'.

To give further impetus to the industrialisation of backward areas. It has also been decided to reduce the level of export obligation for MRTP|FERA companies in respect of Non-Appendix-I industries to 25 per cent in category 'B' and 'C' districts and completely dispense with this requirement in respect of Category 'A' backward districts.

Allotment of Maruti Cars

*12. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the persons who were allotted Maruti 800 in early February 1987 and who have deposited the full cost of vehicle in the said month were not given delivery of the vehicle till 28th February, 1987 and were later on compelled to pay the enhanced price of the vehicle; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the steps taken to refund the additional amount of money deposited towards such enhancement?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) some of the customers who had deposited payment, on maturity of their allotment, in February, 1987 could not be given delivery of their vehicle within that month. According to terms of said, the price has to be paid as prevailing on the date of delivery.

National Gas Grid

*13. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish a national gas grid;